

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 10497 292224Z
ACTION EUR-12

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PASS HEW FOR COMMISSIONER BOYER, ASSOCIATE COMM-
ISSONER LEESTMA; LABOR FOR D/U/S EDES, A/S GREEN
A/D/U/S BLACKMAN, AVERY AND METCALF

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SEDU, OECD
SUBJECT: APRIL 5 COUNCIL MEETING: PROPOSED MEETING OF
THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL

REF: (A) PARIS 9731, (B) STATE 60222, (C) POLANSKY/
FORRESTER TELECON, 3/29

1. AS NOTED PARA 1 OF REF A, MISSION IS PROVIDING
DEPARTMENT RELEVANT PART OF ALTERNATIVE SECRETARIAT
PROPOSALS FOR SUBJECT MEETING. (NEW DOCUMENT C(78)42
WAS POUCHED TO ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER LEESTMA MARCH 24.)
TEXT OF RELEVANT PARAS OF C(78)42 READ:

QUOTE:

(8.) FROM THESE CONSIDERATIONS THE SECRETARY GENERAL
CONCLUDES THAT THE COUNCIL HAS TWO POSSIBLE LINES OF
RESPONSE TO THE ISSUE RAISED BY AMBASSADOR
ATHANASSOPOULOS:

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(A) TO MAINTAIN THE EXISTING PROPOSAL OF THE EDUCATION
COMMITTEE, IT BEING CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT MEMBER
COUNTRIES MAY WISH TO INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF
OTHER DEPARTMENTAL INTERESTS IN THEIR NATIONAL
DELEGATIONS, AND TO USE THE CONSULTATION WITH BIAC
AND TUAC AS A MEANS OF BRINGING THE VIEWS OF THE
SOCIAL PARTNERS TO THE NOTICE OF THE COMMITTEE; OR

(B) TO CHANGE THE FORM OF THE MEETING TO AN AD HOC MINISTERIAL MEETING ON EDUCATION AND WORKING LIFE UNDER THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COUNCIL.

(9.) THE SECRETARY GENERAL MAINTAINS HIS PROPOSAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FIRST OF THESE APPROACHES, FOR TWO REASONS. MOST IMPORTANT ARE THE SUBSTANTIVE CONSIDERATIONS OUTLINED IN PARAS 6-7 ABOVE. THE SECOND IS THAT ALTERNATIVE (B) COULD NOT AVOID THE APPEARANCE OF BEING LARGELY A REPEAT OF THE HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT, RATHER THAN A LOGICAL FOLLOW-UP WITH THE PURPOSE OF FORMULATING THE EDUCATIONAL RESPONSE TO AN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SITUATION WHICH HAS BEEN ADEQUATELY LAID OUT IN OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANIZATION.
END QUOTE.

ON RECEIPT OF THIS DOCUMENT, WE SPOKE TO SECRETARIAT (PAPADOPOULOS IN ABSENCE OF GASS) TO REITERATE OUR VIEW THAT THE CONSULTATIONS QUESTION SHOULD NOT BE ACTED ON BY THE COUNCIL UNTIL AFTER THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE HAD DISCUSSED THE ISSUE. PAPADOPOULOS AGREED WITH THIS, SAID THE REFERENCE TO CONSULTATIONS IN PARA 8.A OF THE DOCUMENT (ABOVE) WAS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THIS POSITION AND THAT THE SECRETARIAT ENVISAGED THAT THE COUNCIL WOULD NOT ACT ON THE QUESTION OF CONSULTATIONS UNTIL THE SECRETARY GENERAL CAME FORWARD WITH PROPOSALS
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AFTER HEARING THE VIEWS OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE FOR APRIL 5 COUNCIL MEETING.
SALZMAN

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NNN

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